



Request for Proposals (RFP)

Public Art Opportunity

Art and Sol Project

Project Budget: \$4,000

Application Deadline: October 26, 2007

Project Description

Experienced artists or artist teams are invited to submit a proposal for the Art and Sol project. Art and Sol is a public art project featuring 9 large sculptural spheres created in the likeness of the sun. The City of El Paso public art program will select two artists to design a sol that will be part of the Art and Sol program. Like the Painted Ponies in Santa Fe and the Cows in Chicago, this public art project will enliven public spaces, drawing residents outdoors to enjoy community-centered art and branding El Paso as a cultural destination for tourists. Artists are to use the sun as their canvas, and create designs and design titles that use the theme of sun as recreated in music, mythology, history, pop culture, science or the landscape of your own imagination.

The Sphere

Artists whose proposals are chosen will be provided with the large sphere and base for their sun project. The artist is responsible for the sphere while it is in their possession. The artwork will be displayed outdoors. It is the responsibility of the artist to consider the preparation of the surface prior to painting, the use of appropriate paint and materials and the application of a durable top coat (UV protection). Materials used are subject to approval MCAD. **The Sphere must be finished and ready for delivery to the City of El Paso by March 5, 2008.**

Budget

The \$4,000 budget amount of this commission shall cover all costs associated with design, artist fees, fabrication, transportation, installation, insurances required of the Artist related to this work, and all tools, materials and labor costs required for the completion of the artwork commission. A contract with the City of El Paso will be established with the awarded artist or team. If you apply as a team please name one person as the designated Team Leader. The contract will be between the City of El Paso and the Team Leader.

Ownership and Copyright

Artists selected to create a sphere will be required to confirm in writing that they are the original creators of their designs, have not copied anyone else's designs and that their design does not infringe on anyone else's intellectual property rights.

The City shall have ownership and possession of the work and the exclusive right to display the work, merchandise and make reproductions of the work. Artist may use image for non-commercial purposes.

Eligibility

This project is open to all professional artists or artist teams in the Greater El Paso Area age 18 and over.

Selection Process

Two artists or artist team will be recommended by a selection panel organized through the Museums & Cultural Affairs Department's Public Art Program. The panel may choose to interview several finalists before making a final recommendation. The Cultural Affairs Advisory Board will review and have final approval of the Public Art Committee's recommendation.

Selection Criteria

The Public Art Committee will review submitted materials and make a recommendation using the following criteria:

- Artistic merit as evidenced by submitted images
- Professional qualifications, i.e., record of artistic achievement as evidenced by resume and professional recognition
- Demonstrated ability to successfully complete public art projects of similar scale and scope.

Application Deadline

Applications must be postmarked or received at the Museums & Cultural Affairs Department no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, **October 26, 2007**. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Submission Requirements

Each application must include:

1. Eight (8) copies of one-page cover letter, briefly describing your interest in and qualifications for this project.
2. Eight (8) copies of a current resume, which outlines your experience as an artist. **Artist teams must submit a resume for each member.**
3. Ten (10) digital images of completed artworks. Digital images must be 150 dpi jpeg formats on a PC compatible CD-R labeled with name only. Images should be titled numerically, not by artist name or title of work.
4. An annotated image identification sheet including: image number, title of work, dimensions, medium, year of completion, location, brief description (optional), and budget amount. If applying as a team, only ten (10) images can be submitted.
5. Names, addresses, email addresses, and phone numbers of three professional references for each applicant.
6. Eight (8) color copies of proposed design, description of sun design, proposed materials to be used, budget, and timeline.

If selected Artists or Artist team will be responsible to provide a photographic documentation of the work in progress on a CD.

Mail submissions to:

**Museums & Cultural Affairs Department
Public Art Program – Art and Sol
2 Civic Center Plaza, 1st Floor
El Paso, Texas 79901**

Late applications will not be considered. Do not staple or bind your application materials. Please do not submit any materials other than those listed above. Additional materials will not be shown to selection panelists. Original artwork will not be accepted or returned.

Estimated Timeline

October 26, 2007	Submissions must be received no later than 5:00 PM
November 16, 2007	Finalists are selected by Artist Selection Panel
November 27, 2007	Public Art Committee Recommendation
December 4, 2007	Cultural Affairs Advisory Board Approval

Note: Schedule dates are tentative except for deadline of submittal materials

For Further Information

All questions regarding this Request for Qualifications are to be directed to Patricia Dalbin, Public Art Coordinator at (915) 541-4894 or e-mail dalbinp@elpasotexas.gov